

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/788,937

Examiner

Parikha S. Mehta

Applicant(s)

YARNYKH ET AL.

Art Unit

3737

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment after Non-Final Rejection filed 21 March 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-44.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/21/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest a method and system for black blood MR imaging wherein a predefined delay time between pulses is calculated as a function of the total number of slices to be imaged.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Parikha S. Mehta whose telephone number is 571.272.3248. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8 - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Casler can be reached on 571.272.4956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Parikha S. Mehta

Examiner – Art Unit 3737



BRIAN L. CASLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

CUSTOMER NUMBER 25268

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT LISTING SHEET

**Information Cited By Applicant(s) That May Be Material To
The Prosecution Of The Subject Application**

Applicants: Yarnykh et al. Attorney Docket No. UNIV0217
Serial No.: 10/788,937 Group Art Unit: 3737
Filed: February 27, 2004 Examiner: Solanki, Parikha
Title: MULTI-SLICE DOUBLE INVERSION-RECOVERY BLACK-BLOOD
IMAGING WITH SIMULTANEOUS SLICE RE-INVERSION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

NONE CITED

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NONE CITED

OTHER INFORMATION

<u>*Examiner Initial</u>	<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Document Information</u>
<u>psm</u>	O1	Parker, Dennis L., K. Craig Goodrich, Marilyn Masiker, Jay S. Tsuruda, and Gregory L. Katzman. "Improved Efficiency in Double-Inversion Fast Spin-Echo Imaging," <i>Magnetic Resonance Medicine</i> 2002, 47:1017-1021.
<u>psm</u>	O2	Song, H.K. "Highly Efficient Double-Inversion Spiral Technique for Coronary Vessel Wall Imaging," <i>Proceedings of the 10th Annual Meeting of ISMRM</i> , Honolulu, 2002, p. 1566.
<u>psm</u>	O3	Song H.K., Alexander C. Wright, Ronald L. Wolf, and Felix W. Wehrli. "Multislice Double Inversion Pulse Sequence for Efficient Black-Blood MRI" <i>Magnetic Resonance Medicine</i> 2002, 47:616-620.


Examiner's Signature

9 AUG 2007
Date

*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Documents cited herein marked with an "*" have not previously been cited in a priority application relied upon herein for an earlier filing date. Copies of any so-noted Foreign Patent Documents and Other Information are enclosed for the Examiner's use.

SKM:elm
3/21/07